LOCAL NEWS

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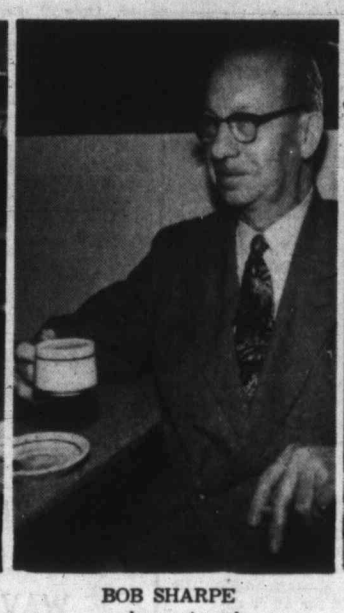
JOYCE DENTITH
. . . some like coke

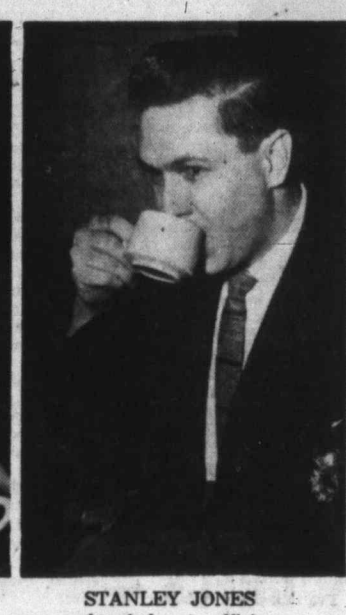


BOB SHARPE
. . . chance to relax

VAN COOMBS
. . . some like milk

ALD. MILLARD H. MOONEY
. . . he likes tea

MARGARET HORNE
. . . welcome quarter-hour



STANLEY JONES
. . . break boosts efficiency

Coffee Break Now More Popular in Canada Than U.S.

Coffee-break is more popular now in Canada than in United States, according to National Office Management Association, and certainly has warm endorsement of all these Victorians found taking breaks yesterday. NOMA finds 91 per cent of Canadian companies give coffee breaks, compared with 79 per cent in United States. Coffee is favorite coffee-break drink in both countries, but tea is second in Canada and soft drinks are second in U.S. Majority of office workers in both countries now have two breaks a day, NOMA survey shows, and in most cases are given 15 minutes on each occasion. Victorians on coffee-breaks were unanimous in opinion that breaks are valuable, result in higher efficiency.—(Colonist photos.)

Saanich Raps Neighbors

School Costs Unfairly Split?

Victoria, Oak Bay and Esquimalt municipalities are not paying their fair share of costs in School District 61, Saanich council charged last night.

The situation throws an unfair burden on Saanich ratepayers, W. Jack Lindsay, Saanich assessor told a special meeting of Saanich council.

Council decided to submit protests to courts of revision which will be held in Saanich municipal hall Feb. 2 and 12 to hear protests against recent reassessments in both school districts—61 and 63.

EVIDENCE GATHERED

A quantity of evidence to support council's stand has been collected by Mr. Lindsay's office, contrasting comparable Saanich houses and houses outside the municipality, and the school taxes paid on the houses.

A total of 33 protests against assessments had been submitted by Saanich ratepayers to last night. The protests claim that the assessments are too high, whereas council's claim will not dispute Saanich assessments.

Council will contend that assessments in other municipalities are too low. Mr. Lindsay told council that municipal assessments are based on 60 per cent of values over a four-year period.

BASIS ABSURD

"It is absurd to base assessments on land values as we are in an area that is expanding and values rise quicker than in stagnant municipality," Coun. Leslie Passmore commented.

Reeve George Chatterton told council he had discussed the possibility of a council protest with one of the members of the provincial government-appointed court of revision.

He warned that the court of revision would not allow Saanich council to see the comprehensive assessment rolls for the school districts, to make comparisons between municipalities.

RECEIVED TOO LATE

In 1957 the provincial government's Assessment Equalization Commission ordered Saanich council to increase assessments in School District 61 by $7,000,000.

The order was received too late to allow for reassessment so the money was raised by an increased mill rate levied over both school districts. In 1958 the assessments in School District 61 were increased by $7,000,000, drawing 250 protests from ratepayers.

LT.-COL. JOHN CAVE
. . . home for keeps

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Army Career Ends after 35 Years

Col. Cave Wants to Loaf, Fish—and Make Lamps

Number of driftwood lamps in the Victoria area is likely to increase during the next few months.

Making these unusual lamps is the favorite hobby of Lt.-Col. John C. Cave, now on retirement leave here after nearly 35 years of service in the Royal Canadian Army.

The veteran, who worked his way up from private to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, has returned to his home at 3709 Casey Drive, Saanich, where he just wants to relax, catch up on his fishing and turn out driftwood lamps for his many friends.

"I've a nice workshop at home and I've already given about 150 of these lamps to my friends all over Canada," he said.

Will he join the militia? "I haven't made up my mind to do anything yet. I'd like to take a couple of months doing nothing, just to see where I am," Col. Cave answered.

He joined the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry as a private, in Winnipeg in January, 1925, and stayed with the PPCLI until December, 1936, when he went to the Canadian Tank School in London, Ont.

During the Second World War, he saw action with the 2nd Canadian Armored Brigade and commanded the Sherbrooke regiment in the northwestern European theatre.

Col. Cave was Equimalt Garrison commander from July 6, 1953, to Jan. 1, 1958. Since then, he has done special staff work for B.C. Area headquarters and commanded the national army cadet camp in Banff from June to September.

His seven-month retirement leave officially started Monday. Upon completion of the leave, he will have served 35 years in the regular army.

People Protest So Skip Work, Says Murdoch

Reeve George Murdoch said last night he favors curtailment of local improvement projects for Oak Bay because there is often too much opposition from people who will benefit.

He referred to a petition signed by 14 property owners on Lorne Terrace protesting the proposed street widening by local improvement.

Council was told many of these same people who signed the petition have complained in the past about parking problems on Lorne Terrace. In considering these complaints, council's street and traffic committee recommended widening the street as the best solution.

The property owners said in a letter read at last night's council meeting that they protest the proposed widening because it will mean an increase in their taxes.

"We've had so many cases like this lately," said the reeve. "I think it would be wise to lay off local improvement projects for a while, at least until the money market steadies down."

Municipal clerk A. D. Findlay said the local improvement proposed for Lorne Terrace had not yet been initiated, "but it would be a waste of time to go ahead now."

The clerk said the 14 people who signed the protest constitute a majority of the property owners affected.

Associate Editor

Harry W. Young, for the past seven years business and financial editor of The Daily Colonist, has been appointed an associate editor of the newspaper, it was announced yesterday by Seth Halton, publisher. Mr. Young, as well as taking part in the editorial direction of the newspaper, will continue to write his daily column and to edit the financial page.

Body Found Off Esquimalt

A body, believed to be that of a naval rating, was recovered from Esquimalt Harbor yesterday afternoon after being spotted floating in the water by a couple of civilian workers.

Rather Have Park

Uplands Folk Spurn Land

Seven property owners in the Uplands area last night indignantly refused a proposal by Oak Bay council to give each of them free approximately one-seventh of an acre of land.

They pointed out the land had been earmarked for development as a park and that's what they wanted—eventually.

Right now they wouldn't press for a formal park area, but "merely a tidy area."

The acre of land, shaped like a slice of pie, is on Nottingham Road. Council proposed to proceed under the Plans Cancellation Act, which calls for giving each adjoining property owner his fair share at no cost.

Mrs. Ethel G. Thompson, 2547 Nottingham Road, said splitting it up "leaves it open to a hodge-podge of fences and backyards such as can be seen anywhere."

She added: "This is the Uplands, and we feel that as such the municipality should stand by the original ideas, which were tantamount to promises to those who were purchasing and had purchased in the area."

The property owners also complained about dumping of soil on the property and allowing weeds to grow wild.

R. F. Choat, 2060 Devon Road, called it a "rubbish dump in the centre of one of your highest tax districts."

The matter was turned over to parks committee for further study and recommendation.

Gibbs Refuses To Obey Shrum

Oak Bay Liberal MLA Archie Gibbs last night refused to correct statements he made about the Shrum royal commission in a free time CBC broadcast and in turn demanded that Dr. Gordon Shrum retract his demands for a correction.

Controversy arose when Dr. Shrum, who heads the inquiry into B.C. Power Commission operations, charged Mr. Gibbs with making "irresponsible" statements to the effect that former BCPC general manager H. Lee Briggs had been refused by Dr. Shrum an opportunity to cross-examine provincial economic adviser J. V. Fisher on his testimony.

Dr. Shrum said last night the statement was incorrect and could be checked with the transcript of evidence.

Mr. Gibbs yesterday argued that newspaper reports stated that Dr. Shrum had said the economic adviser would not be called at the request of Mr. Briggs or his counsel.

What actually happened at the royal commission was that Dr. Shrum asked if Mr. Briggs' counsel wished to cross-examine immediately following the testimony of Dr. Fisher and the reply was that they wished to withold the cross-examination.

Dr. Shrum castigated Mr. Briggs' counsel for holding off cross-examination and pointed out that Mr. Briggs had no right to call the witness back. But Dr. Shrum then pointed out that Dr. Fisher would undoubtedly be back on the stand and that an opportunity for Mr. Briggs' counsel to cross-examine would then be offered.

BOB SPOONER

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Seen In Passing

Bob Spooner selling appliances in a downtown store where he has been working for the past seven years. (He and his wife, **Marie**, make their home at 3272 Campion Road and they have three children, **Roddy**, 10, **Kathy**, 8, and **Lawrie**, 6. Bob's hobbies are fishing and amateur ceramics) . . . **Annabelle Brown** smiling sympathetically while wrapping up a prescription for cold pills . . . **Don Sutherland** saying the many colds going around have doubled his business in anti-histamines . . . **Avis Walton** welcoming newcomers to Victoria . . . **Harry Leggett** pleased that a three-year-old prediction has been confirmed . . . **John Meyer** selling an insurance policy . . . **Odile Winfield** busily at work in her Fort Street office . . . **Ira Hill** drinking coffee downtown Sunday morning . . . **Len King** changing a tire . . . **Police Chief John Blackstock** talking about courteous drivers.

Crescent Farewell Today

HMCS Crescent today ends a 12-year association with Esquimalt. Rear Admiral H. S. Rayner, flag officer Pacific Coast, will be aboard when Crescent sails out past Duntze Head for the last time at the head of the Second Canadian Escort Squadron.

Built on the Clydebank as a destroyer of the Algonquin class for the Royal Navy, Crescent was completed in September, 1945, and by the end of the year was transferred to the RCN on a permanent basis.

Soon afterwards the ship was attached to Pacific Command.

EXTENSIVE REFIT

A two-year period of extensive modernization and refit, to give Crescent its present anti-submarine capabilities as a destroyer escort, started in 1953.

Capt. J. C. Grant and the entire ship's company will transfer to the Assiniboine, assigned here from the Atlantic command, at San Diego next month. Assiniboine's crew will board the Crescent to rejoin Atlantic command.

Second Canadian Escort Squadron will carry out exercises in Alaskan waters and then travel to Hawaii and San Diego.

CAPT. NORMAN FOSTER
. . . his hanging baskets became city fixtures.

Drill Team Founder 'Cap' Foster Dies

Capt. Norman Alfred Foster, 78, founder of the Victoria Girls' Drill Team, died yesterday in Royal Jubilee Hospital.

He was a member of the Greater Victoria Celebrations Association, a life member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and a former member of the Victoria Chamber of Commerce.

"Cap" Foster was born in London, Eng., Dec. 23, 1880. He was a veteran of the South African War and the First World War.

He came to Victoria in 1913 and worked for the firm of E. G. Prior and Co. At the outbreak of war, he transferred from the local militia squadron of B.C. Horse to the Canadian Mounted Rifles, and later went overseas with the 103rd Battalion, CEF, in 1916.

After the war, he went into the real estate business in the U.S., and returned to Victoria in 1936.

While the city was preparing for the 75th anniversary of its incorporation in 1937, he worked with Thomas Hawkins, then alderman and chairman of the celebrations, in installing the hanging flower baskets which are now permanent fixtures here.

The same year he became secretary-treasurer of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. The following year, he formed the drill team, and still later, was made trainer of the Chinese girls' drill team.

Last summer, on the 20th anniversary of the founding of the drill team, he was presented with a bronze bust of himself when past members met from all over the continent to honor him. The bust is now in a place of honor in city hall.

Surviving is his widow, Mary, at home, 1045 Meares Street.

Queen's Portrait to Hang In Oak Bay Municipal Hall

It took six months to get around to it, but Oak Bay council last night decided it should have a picture of the Queen to hang in the new municipal hall.

"This must be the only council chamber in Canada that doesn't have a picture of Her Majesty," said Coun. W. G. Ellis, who brought the matter up.

"Good idea," said Reeve Murdoch. "I've thought about it myself for a long time."

The rest of council agreed.

But, said the reeve firmly, the Queen's portrait "must be suitable" to the severely modern interior of the new council chambers.

When the $185,000 municipal hall was opened last June, all the portraits of former reeves were packed up and stored in the basement.

This was done by order of the then reeve Fred Norris, and the portraits have remained in storage ever since.

Reeve Murdoch said he didn't wish to be blamed for spoiling the look of the room, "so let's get a suitable portrait of Her Majesty. We'll hang it behind the reeve's chair."

Area Blacked Out By Power Failure

A wide area of Greater Victoria was left without electric power for about 30 minutes yesterday noon, when relay trouble developed at the Arnott substation of the B.C. Electric Co. on the mainland.

At the time this area was drawing all power through two submarine cables from the mainland. When the blackout occurred, at 12.03 p.m., priority circuits were instantly connected with Vancouver Island power sources.

Other areas, however, were "dark" from 32 to 39 minutes. All power, using Island sources, was restored by 12.42 p.m., and by 1.30 p.m. power was available once more from the mainland.

Districts affected included Gordon Head, Lake Hill, Gorge-Cloverdale, Wilkinson Road, North Quadra, Cordova Bay and the Hillside-Gosworth district.

Holiday Stopped Scarlet Fever

Here's a method of combatting disease that every school child would approve: holidays.

Dr. Elizabeth Mahaffy, Victoria-Esquimalt medical health officer, said yesterday the Christmas vacation had apparently broken up an onslaught of scarlet fever.